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25X1. The former Hauptverwaltung für Wissenschaft und Technik (Main Administration for Science and Technical Matters) has now become a Hauptabteilung (Main Department) and belongs to the Ministry for Planning. The Minister is Heinrich Rau. The Main Department for Science and Technical Matters employs approximately 30 Referenten. For research tasks in the foundry industry, Referent Gottschalk* has allotted the sum of 1.2 million DM (East) for the year 1950.

2. The following can be considered as research institutes for the foundry industry:

a. Zentral Forschungsinstitut der Vereinigung Volkseigener Betriebe für Guss- und Schmiedearzeugnisse (GUS), located on the premises of the firm of Meier & Weichelt, Leipzig W 34, Giesser Strasse 8 - 10.** The chief of this Central Research Institute is Prof. Althoff, a metallurgist, approximately 45 years of age, who used to be at the Research Laboratory of the Heinkel-Werke. The Central Research Institute of the GUS employs approximately 50 people.

b. Zentrales Metallurgisches Forschungsinstitut für Schwarzmetalle***, Hennigsdorf, located on the premises of the Stahl-und Walzwerk Hennigsdorf, a people-owned factory.

c. Geologische Landesanstalt in Berlin, Invalidenstrasse, directed by Prof. Lange.***

3. One of the main research tasks in 1949 was to find a clay which would be most suitable as a binding agent for molding sand (Formsand). Drillings conducted by the Geologische Landesanstalt showed that in Mecklenburg a clay of the desired property could be found. The clay deposit has a width of about 70 m. and it is presumed that the vein runs up into Holstein. Tests indicated that this clay not only contains the best property as a binding agent for molding sand but is also most suitable as a bleaching agent for the refinery of oil according to the absorption method. It is hoped now that bleaching agents will no longer have to be imported. The bleaching clay found in Mecklenburg is darker than the imported one. It is contended, however, that as far as absorption capacity is concerned, this clay is equal to the imported earth. However, because of its dark color, oil experts of the Eastern Zone consider the clay inferior.

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4. One of the priority tasks for 1950 is the developing and testing of a foundry furnace (Giesserei-Schmelzofen). This new furnace, in contrast to the smelting furnace currently in use, is not to be fired with coke exclusively. The plan is to substitute 50 percent of the coke with carbonization gas (Schwelgas) and it is thus hoped to reach the same heat. If the development of such a furnace should be successful, coke imports of the Eastern Zone could be curtailed and the money thus saved used for other imports. The cost of development and testing of the new furnace is estimated at 600,000 DM (East) which sum Herr Gottschalk hopes will be made available in addition to the 1.2 million DM mentioned in paragraph 1.

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25X1 Comment: Gottschalk, formerly of Heeres-Waffenamt, is chief of the Fachabteilungen, Mining, Metallurgy and Machine Construction.

25X1 Comment: The Meier & Weichelt firm now belongs to the GUS and is called GUS Leipziger Eisen-und Stahlwerke VVB.

25X1 Comment: The Chief of this institute is Prof. Maurer, former chief of the Eisenhütteninstitut of the Freiberg Mining Academy, who was dismissed from the Academy in 1945 because of his party affiliations and who worked for a time as collaborator of the Technisches Büro Eisen in Freiberg. He is one of the metallurgists responsible for the development of rustproof steel. Lately, he has also become director of the Control Commission of the VESTA (Vereinigung Stahl und Eisen) checking the quality of goods for use in the steel mills belonging to the VESTA. The Stahl-und Walzwerk Hennigsdorf is also one of the plants belonging to the VESTA.

25X1 Comment: No kin to Prof. Lange of the Main Department for Science and Technical Matters.

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